

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-19 without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. Also, please add new claims 20-42 as follows:

Claims 1-19 (Cancelled)

20. (New) A method of implementing an application and eliminating uncontrolled internal interdependencies within the application, with the application comprising a number of functional entities, each entity comprising one or more elements, and with the application producing application output data from input data such that element output data produced by the elements determines entity output data produced by the functional entities and the entity output data determines the application output data, wherein there are interdependencies formed between the elements, between the functional entities, or between the elements and the functional entities, said method comprising:

normalizing an element such that uncontrolled internal interdependencies within said element are eliminated, and such that the input data supplied to said element solely determines element output data produced by said element.

21. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein at least one normalized element forms a functional entity, and wherein output data of the functional entity is determined by the at least one normalized element.

22. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, further comprising:

forming at least one functional entity from at least one normalized element; and  
normalizing the at least one functional entity.

23. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the normalized element comprises a normalized functional entity.

24. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the normalized element forms at least one normalized functional entity, and wherein the output data of the application is solely determined by the normalized functional entity.

25. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein said normalized element forms at least one normalized functional entity, and wherein the at least one normalized functional entity is formed by joining at least two elements of said plurality of elements in parallel, as a union.

26. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein said normalized element forms at least one normalized functional entity, and wherein the at least one normalized functional entity is formed by selecting at least one item of element output data.

27. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein said normalized element forms at least one normalized functional entity, and wherein the at least one normalized functional entity is formed by specifying element output data based upon input data.

28. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, said method further comprising the steps of:

executing a plurality of normalized elements in cascade, wherein the output data of the element affects input data of another element of the plurality of normalized elements.

29. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

conditionally executing normalized elements, wherein when a second normalized element produces predetermined output data, input data for a first normalized element is determined, and wherein when the second normalized element does not produce the predetermined output data, no input data is determined for the first normalized element.

30. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, further comprising the steps of:

repeatedly executing the normalized element, with a number of repeated executions of a first element being determined by output data of a second element.

31. (New) A method as recited in claim 20, wherein the application is implemented as telephone exchange software in a mobile communication system.

32. (New) A system for implementing an application and eliminating uncontrolled internal interdependencies within the application, wherein the application comprises a number of functional entities, each entity comprising one or more elements, and wherein the application produces application output data from input data such that element output data produced by the elements determines entity output data produced by the functional entities and the entity output data determines the application output data, and wherein there are interdependencies formed between the elements, between the functional entities, or between the elements and the functional entities, said system comprising:

normalizing means for normalizing one or more elements such that uncontrolled internal interdependencies within each element are eliminated, and such that the input data supplied to each element solely determines element output data produced

by said element.

33. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:

forming means for forming a functional entity comprising at least one normalized element.

34. (New) A system as recited in claim 33, further comprising:

normalizing means for normalizing the functional entity.

35. (New) A system as recited in claim 34, further comprising:

normalizing means for treating the normalized functional entity as a normalized element.

36. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:

forming means for forming an application comprising at least one normalized functional entity, and wherein the output data of the application is solely determined by the at least one normalized functional entity.

37. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:

forming means for forming a functional entity from at least one normalized element, said forming means joining at least two elements of said plurality of elements in parallel, as a union.

38. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:

at least one normalized functional entity, and wherein the at least one normalized functional entity is formed by selecting at least one item of element output data.

39. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:

at least one normalized functional entity, and wherein the at least one normalized functional entity is formed by specifying element output data based upon input data.

40. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:  
executing means for executing a plurality of normalized elements in cascade,  
wherein the output data of the element affects input data of another element of the  
plurality of normalized elements.

41. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:  
forming means for forming a functional entity based upon at least one normalized  
element, wherein said at least one normalized element can be executed conditionally, and  
wherein when a second normalized element produces predetermined output data, input  
data for a first normalized element is determined, and when the second normalized  
element does not produce predetermined output data, no input data is determined for the  
first element.

42. (New) A system as recited in claim 32, further comprising:  
forming means for forming a functional entity from at least one normalized  
element, wherein the at least one normalized element can be executed repeatedly, with a  
number of repeated executions of a first element being determined by output data of a  
second element.

43. (New) A system for implementing an application and eliminating  
uncontrolled internal interdependencies within the application, wherein the application  
comprises a number of functional assemblies, each assembly comprising one or more

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elements, and wherein the application produces application output data from input data such that element output data produced by the elements determines assembly output data produced by the functional assemblies and the assembly output data determines the application output data, and wherein there are interdependencies formed in at least one of between the elements, between the functional assemblies, and between the elements and the functional assemblies, said system comprising:

the one or more elements; and

normalizing means for normalizing the one or more elements such that uncontrolled internal interdependencies within each element are eliminated, and such that the input data supplied to each element solely determines element output data produced by said element.

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